

## Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 5 SEOUL 2949

JAKARTA PASS TO CODEL WOLFF AND ASST SEC HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP; KS

SUBJECT: CODEL WOLFF SEOUL PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT PRESS CONFERENCE HELD AT KIMPO  
AIRPORT, SEOUL, BY CODEL WOLFF. DELEGATION INCLUDED REP. MARIO  
BIAGGI, REP. HELEN MEYNER, AND REP. BILLY LEE EVANS.

2. FIRST LET ME INDICATE THE REASONS WHY WE HAVE COME HERE TO  
KOREA. THIS IS ONE VISIT OF THE TOTAL THAT WE ARE TAKING THOROUGH  
ASIA TO THE COUNTRIES THAT ARE INVOLVED IN VARIOUS AREAS OF OUR  
MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE, WHEN WE RETURN, ARE GOING  
TO BE FACED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING A DETERMINATION  
OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RELATIVE  
TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE HAD TO MAKE THIS TRIP  
IN A GREAT HURRY; WE WILL BE VISITING SOME FIVE COUNTRIES  
IN A PERIOD OF TWELVE DAYS -- IT HARDLY CAN BE CONSIDERED A  
JUNKET OF THE KIND THAT SOME OF OUR COLLEAGUES HAVE BEEN CRITI-  
CIZED FOR. AS YOU CAN SEE, WE ARE LEAVING THIS MORNING FOR  
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JAKARTA, WHICH IS THE NEXT STOP IN OUR JOURNEY. FROM JAKARTA,  
WE WILL BE TRAVELLING TO BANGKOK, THEN TO MANILA, AND THEN TO  
TAIPEI. ALL OF THE COUNTRIES THAT WE HAVE VISITED AND WILL VISIT  
ARE COUNTRIES WHEREIN THE UNITED STATES HAS SOME SORT OF MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE OR MILITARY SALES PROGRAM.

3. PRIOR TO OUR VISIT HERE, WE STOPPED IN JAPAN AND HAD MEETINGS

WITH MR. FUKUDA, WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE DIET. WE HAVE FOLLOWED THAT SAME PROCEDURE HERE, IN HAVING MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PARK, WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, AND ALSO WITH VARIOUS MEMBERS OF YOUR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. OUR OBJECTIVES HERE WERE TO MAKE A DETERMINATION, RELATIVE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE PRESIDENT IN THE BUDGET, AS TO THE DEGREE OF FOREIGN MILITARY SALES THAT SHALL BE EXTENDED TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

4. WHILE HERE, WE DID DISCUSS WITH THE PRESIDENT, AND WITH THE OTHER PEOPLE WHO WE MET, THE QUESTION OF THE DRAW DOWN OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN KOREA. WE HAVE ASKED FOR RECOMMENDATIONS; WE ARE NOT THE NEGOTIATING TEAM; WE'RE MERELY LEGISLATORS; HOWEVER, THERE'S A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP, TODAY, BETWEEN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OUR EXECUTIVE.

5. DURING THE COURSE OF OUR DISCUSSIONS, WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE AREA WHICH IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO AMERICANS AND TO THE PUBLIC GENERALLY, OF OUR PRESIDENT'S STRONG EMPHASIS ON THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS IS NOT DIRECTED AT KOREA, BUT IS A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE THAT IS A UNIVERSAL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE, AND RESTATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE, OF AMERICA'S POSITION IN THE WORLD, WITH REGARD TO THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. OUR CONVERSATIONS THAT WE HELD HERE, WE FEEL, HAVE BEEN QUITE FRUITFUL; THEY WERE FRANK; THEY WERE EARNEST DISCUSSIONS; THERE WAS NOTHING WITHHELD IN THESE DISCUSSIONS. IN A MEETING THAT WAS INTENDED TO LAST, PERHAPS, FOR ONE HALF HOUR, PRESIDENT PARK GAVE US ALMOST TWO HOURS TO DISCUSS WITH HIM THE PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS THAT WE HAD AND THE PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS THAT HE HAD.

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6. OUR COMMITTEE, IN ADDITION TO ITS ACTIVITIES HERE IN THE AREA OF THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH NARCOTICS--NARCOTICS ABUSE AND THEREFORE SEVERAL OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMITTEE HAVE ALREADY GONE ON TO BANGKOK, WHICH IS THE CENTER OF THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE, AND TO HONG KONG, WHERE THERE IS A TRAFFICKING CENTER FOR NARCOTICS THAT ARE COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES. THESE ARE ALL AREAS OF IMPORTANT CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES.

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AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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7. I KNOW THAT BOTH I AND MY COLLEAGUES WILL BE DELIGHTED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY. AND ONE THING, HOWEVER, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND, WE ARE BUT FOUR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ENTIRE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES THAT NUMBERS SOME 535 MEMBERS. WE ARE NOT THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BUT WE CARRY WITH US THREE MEMBERS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT IN THE PENTAGON, AS WELL AS OTHER OF THE EXECUTIVE AGENCIES, SO YOU CAN SEE THAT THIS IS AN EVIDENCE OF A NEW MODE IN AMERICAN ACTIVITY IN THE VERY CLOSE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.

8. WE WERE GRATIFIED AT THE MEETING WHICH WE HTLD WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. WE ENGAGED IN VERY FRANK DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM, ON A ONE ON ONE BASIS, AS WELL AS THE IDEA OF TAKING EACH OTHER TO TASK, OR WHAT WE THOUGHT WERE POINTS OF DIFFERENCES. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR NATIONS WHO AE ALLIES AND WHO HAVE BEEN FRIENDS FOR MANY YEARS TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST SO THAT WE CAN RESOLVE THESE DIFFERENCES AND GET ON WITH THE TASKS THAT WE BOTH FACE. THERE ARE ADVERSARIES IN THE WORLD WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN END TO BOTH OF OUR SYSTEMS. OUR DESIRE IS TO MAINTAIN THE FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLES OF KOREA AND THE FREEDOMS  
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OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE REST OF THE FREE WORLD. AGAIN, I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE AND INSTEAD OF OUR MAKING ANY LONG SPEECHES, WE WOULD PERHAPS ADDRESS OURSELVES TO THE ITEMS THAT ARE OF CONCERN TO YOU. IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS, WE WILL BE DELIGHTED TO TRY TO ANSWER THEM FOR YOU.

Q: WELL, IN KOREA, YOU HAD A BUSY SCHEDULE, MEETING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND I THINK AT LEAST ONE OF YOUR GROUP

MET A NUMBER OF DISSIDENTS. NOW, DID YOU FIND ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE KOREAN SITUATION BEFORE AND AFTER YOUR VISIT?

MR. WOLFF: OUR MISSION MET WITH PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OUT OF GOVERNMENT. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO APPRAISE THE POLITICAL SITUATION THAT EXISTS IN THIS COUNTRY IN ITS TOTAL CONTEXT. WE DID MEET WITH A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ARE OUTSIDE OF GOVERNMENT, HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF TALKING TO THEM VERY FRANKLY AS TO WHAT THE SITUATION WAS, I THINK THAT WE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERNS AND, HOWEVER, I MUST SAY TO YOU THAT THERE IS ONE ELEMENT THAT IS A GUIDING PRINCIPLE THAT I, AS CHAIRMAN OF THIS DELEGATION, HAD, AND I CAN LET MY COLLEAGUES SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. WE HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF VIETNAM, WHERE OUR NATION ATTEMPTED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER NATION. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DO NOT WANT THAT EXPERIENCE REPEATED. THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AN INDIVIDUAL NATION ARE THEIR OWN. WE CAN EXPRESS OUR CONCERNS, BUT WE CANNOT INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANY OTHER NATION. WOULD MY COLLEAGUES LIKE TO SPEAK TO THAT POINT?

MRS. MEYNER: I WILL SPEAK BRIEFLY AND SAY THAT IT WAS A PARTICULAR PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE BACK IN KOREA. I WAS HERE, DURING THE WAR IN 1950 AND '51 AND '52, THROUGH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, AND THE WAY THAT THIS COUNTRY HAS, LIKE A PHOENIX,

RISEN UP OUT OF THE ASHES AND RUBBLE OF WAR IS TRULY REMARKABLE. IT WAS A VERY SHORT STAY HERE, REALLY TOO SHORT A STAY TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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AN EXPERT. IF YOU STAY IN A PLACE ONLY 24 HOURS, YOU KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS; IF YOU ARE IN A PLACE 48 HOURS, YOU'RE THERE TOO LONG TO KNOW

THE ANSWERS. MR. HOLBROOKE SAID YESTERDAY AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN GROUND FORCES IN KOREA (INAUDIBLE) WILL BEGIN SOMETIME NEAR THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR, MR. CARTER SAYS. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT PLAN?

MR. WOLFF: I MUST TELL YOU THAT THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE DRAW DOWN OF AMERICAN TROOPS BEGAN FIVE YEARS AGO.

Q: FIVE YEARS AGO?

MR. WOLFF: YES. NOW YOU MAY QUESTION THAT, BUT I MUST TELL YOU THAT FIVE YEARS AGO, WHEN WE DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF THE MODERNIZATION OF THE KOREAN ARMED FORCES, THERE WERE DISCUSSIONS AS TO THE REMOVAL OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF AMERICAN TROOPS. AT THAT TIME, THERE WERE 20,000 AMERICAN TROOPS TAKEN OUT. IN DISCUSSIONS THAT THE COMMITTEE THAT VISITED HERE IN 1975 HAD WITH PRESIDENT PARK--THERE WERE DISCUSSIONS AT THAT TIME AS TO HOW LONG THE AMERICAN PRESENCE WAS NECESSARY IN KOREA. AT THAT

TIME, HE INDICATED TO US THAT HE DESIRED TO SEE THE END OF THE  
NEED FOR AMERICAN GROUND TROOPS IN KOREA AS SOON AS THE KOREANS  
WERE ABLE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES ADEQUATELY AGAINST

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ANY INCURSIONS THAT MIGHT COME FROM THE NORTH. THIS IS NOT A  
NEW POLICY. SOME PEOPLE HAVE INDICATED THAT THIS WAS NEW.  
THE PRESIDENT MENTIONED THIS...PRESIDENT CARTER MENTIONED THIS  
IN HIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN, BUT HE WAS NOT SAYING ANYTHING NEW.  
WE HAVE  
BEEN HERE FOR THIRTY YEARS--THE QUESTION IS HOW LONG IS IT NECESSARY?  
I THINK THAT WE, IN THE UNITED STATES, HAVE A GREATER FAITH  
IN THE ABILITY OF THE KOREANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES, THAN SOME  
KOREANS HAVE IN THEIR OWN DEFENSE. THE FACT THAT THE UNITED  
STATES IS TALKING ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOME OF ITS TROOPS IS  
AN INDICATION OF THE CONFIDENCE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS IN  
KOREA IN ITS ABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF. THE TROOPS WILL NOT  
BE WITHDRAWN UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THERE ARE LONG AND ADEQUATE  
DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT AND WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF  
JAPAN. ALSO, IT SHOULD NOT BE MISINTERPRETED, AND I THINK  
THIS IS THE...IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THAT I CAN POSSIBLY MAKE  
THEM, IT SHOULD NOT BE MISINTERPRETED BY THE NORTH KOREANS THAT  
THE UNITED STATES IS LESSENING ITS COMMITMENT TO THE FREEDOM  
AND SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THEY MISCALCULATED THE  
LAST TIME THAT THERE WAS A QUESTION RELATIVE TO THIS, AND THE  
KOREAN WAR RESULTED FROM IT. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO MAINTAIN  
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THE STABILITY OF THE PENINSULA. OUR OBJECTIVE, AND I THINK IT WAS NO BETTER SAID THEN BY MINISTER SUH YESTERDAY AT OUR MEETING WITH THE DEFENSE FORCES, "OUR JOINT OBJECTIVES ARE NOT TO WIN A WAR, BUT TO MAINTAIN AND ESTABLISH A PEACE."

Q: ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM, MRS. MEYNER, YOU MET YESTERDAY WITH MR. YUN, PO SUN AND ALSO MR. CHUNG, IL-HYUNG OF THE MYONG DONG AFFAIR, AND YOU TALKED ABOUT, A LITTLE BIT, ON THE PROBLEM OF (INAUDIBLE)...FAMILIES INVOLVED IN THIS AFFAIR. WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY? MRS. MEYNER: YES, WELL, WE MET VERY BRIEFLY WITH THESE PEOPLE. I WAS NATURALLY VERY INTERESTED TO HEAR THEIR POINT OF VIEW; THEY DO NOT LIKE THE IDEA THAT SOME OF THEIR RELATIVES ARE INCARCERATED, SOME HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED, AND I ALWAYS THINK THAT IT'S IMPORTANT TO TALK TO ALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE AND TO HEAR A VARIETY OF POINTS OF VIEW.

MR. BIAGGI: MR. CHAIRMAN, I THINK IT'S ESSENTIAL TO LEAVE ONE IMPRESSION; ONE, THERE'LL BE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES DEALING WITH THIS PHASING DOWN OF AMERICAN PRESENCE. AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID, THE MILITARY CAPABILITY WILL NOT BE DIMINISHED ONE BIT. IN EFFECT WHAT HE IS SAYING, IN OTHER WORDS, IS THAT HE IS TERRIBLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY OF KOREA. NOW IF WE DO, AND WHEN WE DO AND IF WE DO WITHDRAW GROUND TROOPS, YOU WILL HAVE A VERY STRONG AIR FORCE PRESENCE. IT'S SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE AIR POWER MIGHT BE INCREASED. AS A RESULT OF OUR PRESENCE HERE, AND THE TESTING OF THE SENTIMENT GENERALLY, THERE'S NO INCLINATION ON THE PART OF ANYONE TO EXPOSE KOREA TO THE POTENTIAL OF ANOTHER WAR. AS FAR AS MILITARY EFFECTIVENESS; THAT WILL BE DETERMINED. ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACET IS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON KOREANS, ON THE KOREAN SOLDIERS, AND ON THE NORTH KOREANS. AS THE CHAIRMAN SAID, THE NORTH KOREANS SHOULD NOT MISINTERPRET ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN BY OUR COUNTRY AS AN ABANDONMENT OR DIMINISHING INTEREST IN THE PRESERVATION OR YOUR NATION.

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MR. WOLFF: I MUST, BECAUSE THE QUESTION WAS ASKED ABOUT MRS. MEYNER'S VISIT WITH SOME GROUPS HERE--ALL OF US MET WITH OPPOSITION PEOPLE; IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET WITH ALL SEGMENTS OF THE SOCIETY. WE ARE ANXIOUS TO STATE, IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS, THAT WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEE THE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES UPHELD IN THIS COUNTRY AS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM UPHELD IN ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. ONE THING, HOWEVER, THAT DID SORT OF TAKE ME BY

SURPRISE, AND THAT IS, IN SPEAKING TO SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MIGHT BE CONSIDERED THE DISSIDENTS, THE INDICATION WAS, THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AMERICAN TROOPS REMAIN. I THOUGHT THE DISSIDENT ELEMENTS WANTED THE AMERICAN TROOPS TO GET OUT. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MAY MISUNDERSTAND. REGARDLESS OF THE POSITION OF THE PEOPLE INVOLVED, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT, IT SEEMS TO ME, THAT PEOPLE WANTED THE AMERICAN PRESENCE TO REMAIN HERE IN THIS COUNTRY. NOW THAT DOES NOT MEAN...I THINK YOU AGREE WITH THAT....

MRS. MEYNER: YES, I DO COMPLETELY. I FEEL VERY STRONGLY THAT THEY SHOULD.

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MR. WOLFF: NOW, I THINK THERE'S A GREAT MISINTERPRETATION. BACK HOME, IN OUR COUNTRY, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE DID LEARN HERE, IS THAT THERE MAY BE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, BUT THAT THERE IS A UNANIMITY IN THE DESIRE TO REMAIN AS A FREE PEOPLE AND A UNANIMITY IN THE EXPRESSIONS THAT WERE MADE TO US, AT LEAST THOSE THAT I SPOKE TO, IN ATTEMPTING TO SEE TO IF THAT THE FREEDOMS THAT ARE ENJOYED, WHETHER THEY BE LIMITED OR UNLIMITED, ARE LESS OF A HAZARD, THAN THE IMPOSITION OF THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNIST SYSTEM UPON THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.

Q: WELL, LAST NIGHT, A KOREAN REPRESENTATIVE, LEE CHOL-SUNG, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MAJOR OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, ADDRESSED A MEETING OF THE SEOUL FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CLUB, AND HE SAID HE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE UNITED STATES IS TRYING TO TAKE AMERICAN TROOPS OUT OF KOREA, WHY IT'S KEEPING MORE

THAN 300,000 MEN IN EUROPE, AND THE REST OF THIS QUESTION--IS  
THERE ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEACE IN EUROPE AND PEACE IN ASIA?  
MR. WOLFF: IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF PEACE IN EUROPE OR PEACE IN ASIA.  
WE ARE FACED WITH BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS IN THE CONGRESS. LIKE  
ANY OTHER NATION OF THE WORLD, WE HAVE BUDGETARY PROBLEMS.  
WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE ECONOMICALLY  
BY YOUR COUNTRY. WE ARE IMPRESSED, AS WELL, BY THE QUALITY OF YOUR  
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MILITARY. AND IT IS NOT JUST A QUESTION OF THE NUMBERS OF THE  
PEOPLE THAT WE HAVE HERE, BUT THE ABILITY TO MEET THE THREAT.  
SO FAR AS THE 300,000 MEN IN EUROPE, THERE ARE CONSTANTLY  
EFFORTS THAT ARE BEING MADE WITHIN THE CONGRESS AND REAPPRAISALS  
BEING MADE OF THE NUMBER OF TROOPS THAT WE HAVE IN EUROPE  
AND THERE UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD HAVE BEEN REMOVALS OF TROOPS FROM  
EUROPE HAD THIS NOT BEEN MISCONSTRUED BY OUR ADVERSARIES THE  
SOVIET UNION. I THINK THAT THERE COULD BE A MAJOR REDUCTION  
OF TROOPS IN EUROPE, IF THE RUSSIANS WOULD GET TO UNDERSTAND  
THE FACT THAT THERE SHOULD BE PEACE IN THE WORLD, RATHER THAN  
THE MAINTENANCE OF AN ARMS RACE. I AM PERSONALLY VERY DISTURBED  
AT THE FACT THAT THE OVERTURES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY OUR NEW  
PRESIDENT, WHICH WERE REALISTIC OVERTURES, WERE NOT MET BY THE  
SOVIETS WITH THE SAME DEGREE OF HONESTY THAT OUR PRESIDENT PUT  
THEM FORTH. WE FEEL THAT THE KOREAN MILITARY IS ABLE, IN MANY  
CASES, TO MEET THE THREAT FROM THE NORTH, IF IT IS NOT COMBINED  
WITH THE FORCES OF THE PRC AND THE RUSSIANS. I THINK YOU CANNOT  
CONSIDER IT IN ISOLATION, ONE AREA OF THE WORLD. TODAY WE LIVE  
IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD AND THEREFORE THE MOVES THAT ARE  
MADE BY ONE SIDE ARE MOVES THAT SHOULD BE MADE BY ANOTHER;  
PERHAPS, THE NORTH KOREANS, THE SOVIETS, AND THE CHINESE WILL  
COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT IN A PRINCIPLE OF WITHDRAWAL OF OUR  
TROOPS. THEY SHOULD, AS WELL, TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION AND  
LESSEN THE TENSIONS. I DON'T THINK THE PEACE OF THIS PENINSULA  
IS DEPENDENT UPON THE UNITED STATES, BUT IT IS MORE DEPENDENT  
UPON NORTH KOREA, THE SOVIETS, AND THE CHINESE.

MR. EVANS: THERE WAS A QUESTION ASKED ABOUT A CHANGE OF IMPRESSION  
AFTER WE GOT TO KOREA. I BELIEVE THAT WAS YOUR QUESTION.  
I AM A NEW CONGRESSMAN; THIS IS MY FIRST TRIP TO KOREA AND YOU  
ARE VERY CORRECT IN THAT THE IMPRESSION THAT A GREAT DEAL OF THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE GET FROM THE AMERICAN PRESS, IS THAT WE ARE IN  
KOREA, AS AMERICANS, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE KOREANS. I HAVE  
FOUND, IN VISITING, THAT WE ARE HERE FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF  
KOREA AND AMERICA. NOT ONLY MILITARILY, BUT ECONOMICALLY,  
I HAVE BEEN TREMENDOUSLY IMPRESSED WITH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OF KOREA. I BELIEVE THAT A COUNTRY COULD NOT DEVELOP THIS  
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WAY IF THERE WAS A GREAT DEPRIVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. I SEE  
A FREE PEOPLE HERE. WHILE THERE MAY BE SOME PROBLEMS OF HUMAN  
RIGHTS, IT'S NOT DIFFERENT FROM THE PROBLEMS OF CIVIL RIGHTS  
THAT WE HAVE HAD IN THE UNITED STATES. I BELIEVE THAT, FROM  
OBSERVING, THAT THE KOREAN PEOPLE CAN DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE  
INTERNALLY, WITHOUT PRESSURE FROM OUTSIDE. I BELIEVE THAT ONE  
FACTOR WHICH--I COME FROM AN AGRICULTURAL REGION--THE FACT THAT  
KOREA CAN RAISE MORE RICE PER CAPITA, PER ACRE, THAN ANY OTHER  
COUNTRY, IS AN INDICATION OF YOUR ABILITY AND OF YOUR  
FREEDOM; SO I AM MUCH IMPRESSED WITH KOREA AND THE KOREAN PEOPLE  
AND I WOULD HOPE THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE A LONG AND LASTING RELA-  
TIONSHIP OF MUTUAL HELP AND WILL SO SPEAK TO THE CONGRESS AND TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

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AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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MR. WOLFF: LET ME JUST CLOSE BY SAYING THIS. WE, AS MEMBERS  
OF CONGRESS, ARE NOT OBLIVIOUS TO THE QUESTIONS OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS IN YOUR COUNTRY. WE SPENT OVER AN HOUR IN DISCUSSING  
THIS AREA WITH PRESIDENT PARK AND IT WAS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION  
IN EACH OF THE MEETINGS THAT WE HELD. THE QUESTION OF HUMAN  
RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY IS PERHAPS A UNIQUE ONE. I WONDER HOW  
MY OWN, AND I SAID THIS BEFORE, MY OWN APPRAISAL OF THE  
LIMITS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE IN MY OWN COUNTRY IF THE CANADIAN  
BORDER OR THE MEXICAN BORDER, FACING THE UNITED STATES, WAS AN  
ARMED CAMP. WE ARE FORTUNATE IN LIVING IN PEACE WITH OUR  
NEIGHBORS AND IT IS THE CONTEXT OF THIS THAT WE MUST ADDRESS  
THE PROBLEM. BUT I DO SAY, VERY STRONGLY, THAT AS SOON AS

THE RETURN TO FULL HUMAN FREEDOMS CAN BE OBTAINED IN THIS COUNTRY,  
IT WILL ACT TOWARD MAINTAINING INTERNAL SECURITY AS WELL AS THE  
EXTERNAL SECURITY WHICH TODAY WE HAVE SUCH GREAT CONFIDENCE IN.  
WE, FROM THE OUTSIDE, CANNOT BE CRITICAL. THIS IS AN INTERNAL  
PROBLEM BUT WE CAN EVIDENCE OUR CONCERN FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY  
AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM.

WE THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING HERE; I AM SORRY THAT OUR TIME  
IS SO SHORT, BUT WE MUST MAKE AN AIRPLANE SO THAT WE CAN GET  
OFF AND DISCUSS VERY SIMILAR SITUATIONS THAT ARE EXISTENT TODAY  
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IN INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND IN TAIPEI. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2831537  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CODEL WOLFF SEOUL PRESS CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** OVIP, OREP, KS, (WOLFF, LESTER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/903dbda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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